



Kington Town Council

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Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

held on Monday 21st January 2019 at 6.40 pm in
The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, St, Kington.

PRESENT

In attendance

Cllr J. Dennis – in the Chair

Cllr. J. Atkinson

Cllr. M. Fitton

Cllr. R. MacCurrach

Cllr. I. Wood-Johnson

Cllr. F. Hawkins

1 member of the public

Mary Tolhurst (admin)

Agenda item

- Env 001.19 1. **APOLOGIES**
Apologies were noted from Cllrs. R. Banks, E. Banks, T. Bounds and C. Forrester
- Env 002.19 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**
There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.
- Env 003.19 3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17th SEPTEMBER 2018**
The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2018, which had been previously circulated were accepted. The Chairman was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.
Cllr Dennis proposed a change in the agenda order: moving agenda item 4.13 (KLEEN) to after item 4.2. This was agreed.
- Env 004.19 4. **STANDING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
- 1) **Health & Safety**
Members noted that the broken glass situation in the town has got worse. Cllr Wood-Johnson requested a Street Cleanse and suggested that a team of volunteers could be formed to sweep street and alleyways regularly.
- Members noted the increase of speeding vehicles in town. This a Police matter, but there is no Police presence in town late at night. Members should log the times at which incidents are noticed.
- 2) **Town Centre**
Members noted that visitors to the town were parking on pavements and causing obstructions.

3) **KLEEN**

Members noted that there was to be a talk on Electric vehicles on Tuesday 22nd January in the Parish House.

A member of the Public gave a brief presentation / report on climate change, citing the UN 12 Year Climate Declaration. Several (14) Town and City Councils in the UK have signed up to the State of Environmental Emergency to become Carbon Neutral and it was suggested that Kington Town Council could join this network. Cllr Dennis thanked the member of public for bringing this to the Environment Committee's attention. It was proposed by Cllr Dennis and seconded by Cllr Atkinson, that this be taken to Full Council meeting. It was stressed that joining Covenant to move towards carbon neutral status this is part of a wider network, and that the Town Council would not work alone, but in closer partnership with KLEEN.

4) **Kington in Bloom**

No further work recently.

5) **Allotments**

Members noted the presence of two invasive species on the allotments, Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed. These can be dealt with by allotment holders.

6) **Recycling**

Cllr Wood-Johnson reported that the local Recycling site had been rated as the best in the County for the past four months. Congratulations were offered to the team.

7) **Churchyard**

- The Sorbus that requires removal has still not been removed as planning consent is required for this. It was agreed to take this to a Full Council meeting.
- Cllr MacCurrach requested an annual inspection of Churchyard trees to try and pre-empt future problems. The staff were requested to approach John Cromar, arboriculturalist about this.
- Cllr MacCurrach noted that the compost bins in the Churchyard were being misused and requested that they be removed.

8) **Community Energy**

There was nothing to report on this agenda item.

It was suggested that this be entitled *Climate Emergency* for future meetings.

9) **Economic Development**

There was nothing to report on this agenda item.

10) **Footpaths Scheme**

- a) Cllr Dennis reminded members of the joint Stakeholders Footpaths meeting to be held on February 11th.
- b) The letter from Paul Finch was noted.

Cllr Atkinson expressed concern that Bridleways might be affected by the concentrations on 'footpaths' and requested that all footpaths, bridleways and green lanes be included in the scheme under 'Rights of Way'. It was agreed that this would be made clear at the meeting on 11th.

11) War Memorial

There was nothing further to report on this agenda item. Members noted that a new representative would be needed following Cllr Laurie's resignation.

12) Quarry Liaison

Councillors expressed their concerns over the lack of information from the Quarry over meeting dates. It was agreed that the Cllr Atkinson would draft a letter, on behalf of the Environment Committee, to the Quarry's Manager to request a meeting: Cllr Atkinson will seek advice from Mr Johnson-Marshall of the Wye and Usk Foundation on the wording before submitting it to the Clerk for approval.

13) Trees

There was nothing further to report on this agenda item.

Env 005.19

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REPORT FROM DOG FOULING GROUP

Cllr. Dennis reported that the Dog Fouling group was still ongoing and that specific areas of the Town were problematic. It was suggested that wildlife cameras be discussed at the next meeting.

Env 006.19

6.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Wildlife cameras / dog fouling

Quarry Liaison

Footpaths

Climate emergency

The next meeting will take place on Monday 18th March 2019 at 6.30pm in the Old Police Station
There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed

Chair of Environment Committee

Date